

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Mail Stop: RCE

Hiroaki INOUE et al.

Docket No. 2001 1094A

Serial No. 09/890,455

Group Art Unit 2812

Filed March 12, 2002

Examiner Lynne A. Gurley

ELECTROLESS PLATING LIQUID AND METHOD OF FORMING INTERCONNECTION

Confirmation No. 3064

USING SUCH AN ELECTROLESS PLATING LIQUID

PRELIMINARY REMARKS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is presented concurrently with the filing of an RCE, requesting entry and consideration of the amendments set forth in the Applicants response dated November 12, 2004.

The Advisory Action indicates that "further consideration will have to be given as to whether the process as a whole does not contain alkali metals, especially when considering the "comprising" language in the preamble, which would enable other ingredients of the plating bath to contain these metals and the disruptors".

It is respectfully submitted that the claims after entry of the amendments filed November 12, 2004 will exclude any alkaline metals and endocrine disruptors from the method as a whole. Although it is recognized that the term "comprising" is open claim language, such open term cannot override the explicit requirement of the claims that the method is conducted without any alkaline metals and endocrine disruptors.

In summary, although the claim does include "comprising" language in the preamble, which would enable other ingredients to be present in the plating bath, the process as a whole may not be conducted with any alkaline metals or endocrine disruptors.

Favorable action and allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroaki INOUE et al.

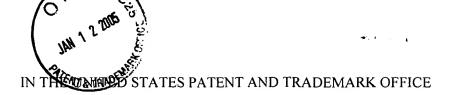
Bv:

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ELECTROLESS PLATING LIQUID AND METHOD Confirmation No. 3064 OF FORMING INTERCONNECTION USING SUCH AN ELECTROLESS PLATING LIQUID

PATENT OFFICE FEE TRANSMITTAL FORM

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Sir:

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Attached hereto is a check in the amount of \$1,240.00 to cover Patent Office fees relating to filing the following attached papers:

Request for Continued Examination (RCE)\$790.00

Petition for Extension of Time\$450.00

A duplicate copy of this paper is being submitted for use in the Accounting Division, Office of Finance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-0975, with the EXCEPTION of deficiencies in fees for multiple dependent claims in new applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroaki INOUE et al.

Warren M. Cheek, J.

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